

August 2, 1956

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Dear Josh and Esther:

Thanks for the additional information on Baltimore and Ann Arbor.

I hope that your trip to Wood's Hole was pleasant although it sounds like some, at least, of the people went from Baltimore to Ann Arbor to M.B.L. with you.

I have little news to report since my last. It has been slow getting started, but I can say that I have begun some of Coli work. Nothing complicated yet, just making a few Gal-mutants, and trying to re-isolate an HFT + Gal⁻. It was slow going, making little water baskets, etc., etc., etc., but now at least I get to use them (have to fill them by hand, since pipetter hasn't arrived yet).

I don't believe that I have mentioned that I received an invitation (thanks, Josh) to give a paper at the New York Academy of Science on November 18. I don't believe that the subject of transduction and transformation needs another beating this year but if I don't do it someone else will. I'll have to walk cautiously among the other speakers on the program.

The Foundation has been quite successful lately in the financial field. One grant of \$10,000 a year for 5 years by Mrs. Bonfils, another of \$2,000 a year for 5 years have been received. There is another arrangement involving oil wells which will produce \$35,000 if the wells are dry, and \$85,000 if they produce. In addition, money has been received to air cool our building. My own fortunes have not been so good. Some one goofed on my N.I.H. request (in Boulder, I think) and it was late and therefore will not get consideration until November council. This was very annoying but nothing can be done about it.

I have done little with the Mycobacteria, except to see if they can be grown in a respectable manner. Thus far no luck. Don't bother about the kinetin. Bob Wright sent me some. It doesn't do anything, at least in the concentrations that I used.

Pontecorvo did arrive here although I didn't see him. Ted said he (Ponte) didn't want to discuss scientific topics and was taken after a couple of hours up into the mountains. That's about all the visitor news. I missed Riker who was here to speak to the Tissue Culture Course. Dilbecco was here for the same purpose the other evening but I missed that because of the heavy rain making my car inoperative. Some parts of Denver have had nearly 10 inches of rain this week.

I will send more information later, things are beginning to settle down now.

Sincerely,

M.L. Morse, Ph.D.

MIM:ch